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Sen. Kelly Hancock's Bill to Recalculate State Spending Limit Passes Senate

SB 9 would provide stricter limits on government spending; bill proceeds to House

AUSTIN - Today, the Texas Senate passed Senate Bill 9 by Kelly Hancock (R - North Richland Hills) to tighten the state spending limit.

"The people of Texas expect a fiscally responsible state government," said Hancock. "This legislation tightens the state spending limit so our government lives within its means, just like Texas families and businesses."

SB 9 changes the way the Legislative Budget Board (LBB) calculates the state spending limit. It directs the LBB to determine the limit by compounding population growth and the inflation rate instead of considering personal income. The results would reflect the state's needs rather than its wants.

Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick voiced his support for the stricter measures.

"Population and inflation are more appropriate measures of growth in the state's economy than the current method using personal income. I am proud of the Senate's hard work in keeping our Texas economy strong by being fiscally responsible with taxpayer dollars," concluded Patrick.

Conservative groups including the Texas Public Policy Foundation and Texans for Fiscal Responsibility support using population growth and inflation when calculating the spending limit.

To read the full text of SB 9, visit Texas Legislature Online.

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Senator Hancock represents <u>Senate District 9</u>, which includes portions of Dallas and Tarrant Counties.